



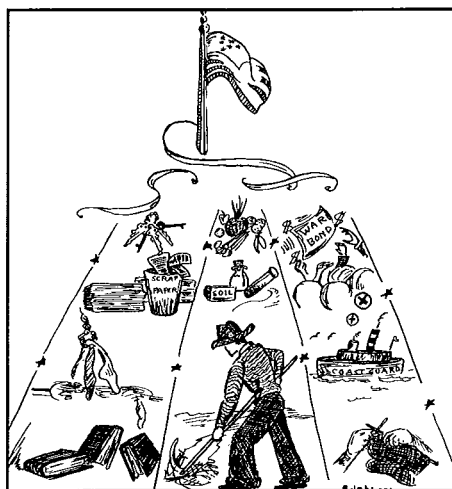
Port Richmond High School Alumni News

VOL. 20 No. 1

BRIDGING THE YEARS TOGETHER

OCTOBER 2011

PORT RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL - STILL THE SCHOOL WITH A BIG



Throughout its more than eighty-year existence, Port Richmond students, faculty and staff have responded to numerous crises and appeals for help. During the Great Depression of the 1930's there were food and clothing drives as well bake sales to raise money to help the needy. During World War II, the focus became one of helping the war effort to insure victory for America and its allies. The 1943 edition of *SOUNDINGS*, the school yearbook, is very instructive of the manner in which Port Richmond High School responded to the call. For example, the drawing to the left shows the many ways in which Port Richmond H. S. did its part in the effort to secure victory. In addition, the following paragraph from the yearbook gives the reader an idea

of just how involved the school was: "...Every senior was required to have a first aid certificate. Almost every month there was some new scrap collection-metals, rubber, stockings, keys, and books, as well as the regular monetary collections for the Red Cross."



This willingness to be of help to others is still strong at PRHS. The students and teachers of the Culinary

Program recently presented a check for \$500 to officials of the Staten Island Children's Campaign, which raises funds to benefit seventeen agencies that provide diverse services to local children.



Pictured at the presentation are Sharon Keck (culinary teacher), Ralph LoPresti (teacher), music students Jasmine Parham and Chris Scott, SICC board member Sam Farag, SICC executive director Donna Long, culinary students Yvette Castillo, Carmen Albino and Chris Guerriera, Assistant Principal Suzanne Woodman, and culinary teacher James Ryan.

A Message from the Principal

Greetings from your Alma Mater! Our Raider family has gotten off to an exciting start to the 2011-2012 school year. Our Freshmen class of Raiders have demonstrated great school spirit thus far and we are thrilled that they have made such a smooth transition to high school. As part of our ongoing initiative to provide a personalized high school experience for all of our students, we are enrolling all of our Freshmen students into a special Freshmen Academy. Students and teachers in the Freshmen Academy are getting to know each other on a daily basis and at the end of each school day these same teachers are spending another period developing curriculum, activities and lessons that will engage our new students. It is an exciting initiative for this school year and one that I know will serve the best interests of our ninth grade students.



I want to remind all alumni and friend of Port Richmond High School that our Hall of Fame Committee will be inducting its third class into the Hall of Fame this coming Spring. I ask all alumni to consider taking time to nominate a classmate or staff member who they feel is worthy of this high honor. Nomination forms can be found at the school website at: <http://schools.nyc.gov/SchoolPortals/31/R445>, or contact our Parent Coordinator, Ms. Elaine DiAngelo, at (718) 420-2103 for further information.

I want to begin this year by once again thanking so many members of our alumni family for your ongoing support of our school community. The pride in your high school that you share with me continues to inspire me on a daily basis and remind me that Port Richmond High School continues to be the best kept secret on Staten Island. I wish you all the best for a great year, and I hope that you will be able to come by and visit your Alma Mater in the near future!

Sincerely,

Timothy M. Gannon

Principal

President's Message

Dear Alumni and Friends,



Once again, PRHS graduates have reason to be proud of their alma mater.

Our Alumni Association continues to make a positive impact and continues to provide the school with resources that enrich the daily lives of its students.

We look forward to many ways to support our alma mater this year, and we will keep you up to date through this newsletter, our website and our growing Facebook page. Consider taking advantage of these communication tools to keep informed and to keep in touch with fellow alumni. To make our newsletter, website and Facebook more meaningful to alumni members, please send information about yourselves so that your classmates are updated. If you have any "remembrances", send a blurb or a photo from your years at PRHS. We will publish them so all can share in the memory.

We will be hosting an All Class Reunion in April 2012 – please see the detailed information included in this newsletter, and make every effort to join us and fellow alumni for an enjoyable afternoon at the Staaten.

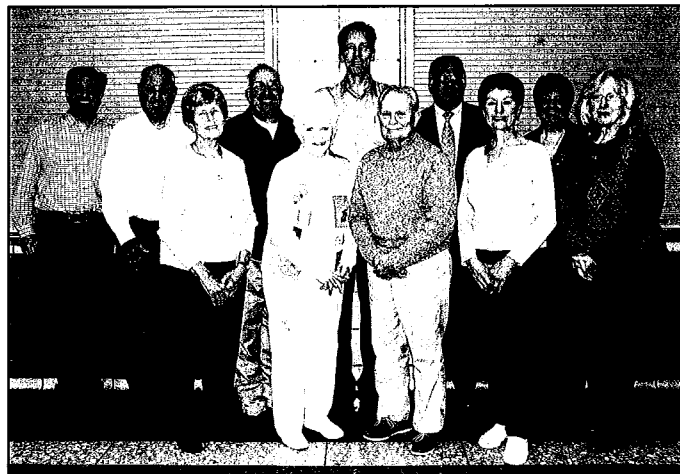
Please remember that your dues and donations make our Association viable and we appreciate your support.

Thank you,

John Jankowski '79

Alumni President

Your Alumni Association Board of Directors



Joseph Crescenzi '83, Robert Mathews '48, Barbara O'Donnell Hoey '53, Edmund Mattei '58, Evelyn Otten MacDonald '46, John Jankowski '77, William Drinnan '47, Carmen Cognetta '64, Francine Delarato Kitts '63, Judi Rogoff Sasnauskas '66, Beverly Wurth Neuhaus '62

CONDOLENCES

The Alumni Association extends its sincerest condolences to the families and friends of the following members of the PRHS family who have passed away:

GLEN T. ANDERSON – FRIEND OF PRHS AND MAJOR CONTRIBUTOR TO THE ALUMNI ASSOCIATION'S SCHOLARSHIP FUND

LOUIS P. DIGUISSEPPI – FACULTY
CECELIA GUMILAR SVENNINGSEN '40

May They Rest in Peace

PORT RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL - STILL THE SCHOOL WITH A BIG



PRHS CIVIC LEADERSHIP

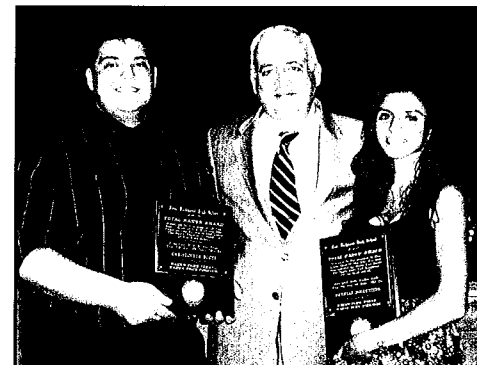
During the 2010-2011 school year, seventeen PR students from the school's Institute for Civic Leadership volunteered for the High School Heroes Program to teach basic economic concepts to kindergartners and first-through fifth grade students at the School for Civic Leadership, a new school located in Graniteville on the site once occupied by the IS 51 annex. Training for the "teachers" was provided by Junior Achievement. In addition, the Port Richmond students organized a Field Day and ran outdoor activities for approximately 250 youngsters. It is hoped that this relationship between the two schools will continue for many more years.



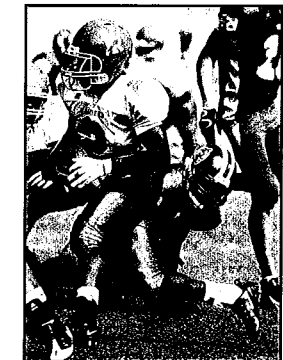
2011 PRHS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Four Port Richmond High School graduating seniors were each awarded a \$1200.00 scholarship by the PRHS Alumni Association. Pictured above are Thomas Nithin who will be attending Manhattan College and will major in Electrical Engineering; Danielle Sorrentino who will attend the University of New Haven with a major in Psychology and Early Childhood Education; Jasmine Parham who will be attending the Hunter College School of Arts and Sciences with a major in Music; and Brett Kramer who has been accepted at SUNY Albany as a Direct Admit to the School of Business. Congratulations and best wishes to each of these outstanding students.

PRHS 2011 TOTAL RAIDERS



Each year two outstanding graduating seniors are chosen by the principal to receive the title of "Total Raider." The selection is based on scholarship, service to the school, participation in school activities, and leadership. Pictured here with Principal Timothy J. Gannon are 2011 Total Raiders Chris Scott, who is attending the College of Staten Island with a major in radio programming and musical theatre production and Danielle Sorrentino, who is attending the University of New Haven, with a major in early childhood education. In addition to their plaques, Chris and Danielle each received a \$250.00 check from the Alumni Association in recognition of their contributions to PRHS.



PRHS FOOTBALL OFF TO A GOOD START

The Red Raiders have thus far compiled a record of 3 and 1. Their victories include JFK High School 14-12; New Utrecht High School 16-12; and Thomas Jefferson High School 16-6. The lone loss was to Boys and Girls High School 42-26. The Alumni Association wishes a safe and successful season to all of PR's teams.

35TH REUNION CELEBRATION - '75 '76 '77
JUNE 10, 2011
THE HISTORIC OLD BERMUDA INN



A



B



C



D



E



F



G



H



I



Key: Names are listed as they appeared in yearbooks:

A. Harvey Weber, Alice Farkouh, Edmund Mattei

B. Bill Gessert, Lisa Taub, Susan Beck

C. Perry Horowitz, Joe Locasio, Joe Montanti

D. Bill Dulski, Pat Sullivan

E. Joe Codd, Evelyn Codd

F. Jim Musselman, Sheryl Larsen

G. Lisa Lencher, Lisa Taub

H. Larry Wiltbank, Jo Ellen Arabito, Tom Johnson

I. Pam Sobiesiak

CLASS NOTES



1961 – The Class of 1961 will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a reunion party to be held on Saturday, November 5, 2011 at The Historic Old Bermuda Inn, Rossville, Staten Island. Those interested in attending should contact Carol Logan Healy at (973) 670-6515, Joan Busch Santore at (718) 948-8101, or John Dahlquist at (732) 446-7101 for further information and reservations.

1962 – The 50th anniversary celebration of the Class of 1962 will be held at The Historic Old Bermuda Inn, Rossville, Staten Island, on October 13, 2012. Those interested in assisting in the planning of this event and those seeking further information may contact Nancy Olsen Woodman at nwoodman1@si.rr.com (718) 816-7249 or Carol Torgersen Sparks at chsparks@zoomtown.com (859)363-0959.

1964 – Christine Twaite Thorsen has retired after serving as a school secretary at PRHS for twenty-seven years. Christine served as the secretary to the Assistant Principal Administration throughout her career at the school. While holding a full-time job, she earned degrees from both The College of Staten Island and Empire State College. She is the mother of two: Lise (class of '86) and David (class of '91) and the proud grandmother of three (Annelise, Silje & Axel). As a newly elected member of the PRHS Alumni Association Board, she is looking forward to maintaining her close ties to the school.

1980 – Jeff Stoutland grew up in Westerleigh on Garrison Avenue. In attending PRHS, Jeff followed in the footsteps of his father, Jerry '47, his aunt Patricia '59, his brother Steven'74, and his sisters Nancy '70 and Karen '76. Jeff played football during his four years at PR and went on to play at Southern Connecticut State College. In his senior year he received Little All-American honors and was captain of the football team. Jeff received a bachelor's degree in physical education in 1984 and a master's degree in 1986, also from Southern Connecticut State. Football was in his blood and from 1988 to 2006 Jeff served as offensive line coach at Southern Connecticut State, Cornell University, Syracuse University, and Michigan State. In 2007, Jeff became offensive line coach at the University of Miami. In 2010, Jeff became the interim head coach of the Hurricanes after the previous head coach was fired. Jeff served as head coach for the final game of the season, a 33-17 loss to Notre Dame. Jeff has since moved on to the University of Alabama where he continues to serve as offensive line coach. Jeff is married to Allison, who is a published author of children's books. They are the parents of Jake and Madison. The Alumni Association wishes Jeff continued success in his career and looks forward to the time when he becomes a full-time head coach.

THANK YOU, CHANCELLOR WALCOTT



On the evening of September 2, 2011, New York City Schools Chancellor Dennis M. Walcott joined the PRHS PSAL City Championship girls' cross country team for a two-mile run through Clove Lakes Park. Of his experience, Chancellor Walcott, who believes that healthy exercise is extremely important for young people, said that "It was an outstanding workout," and that "these young ladies are fantastic individuals that are so sweet, friendly, focused and determine to do well." Coach Marissa Olivieri stated that having the Chancellor participate in this way "makes a big statement" about his interest in athletics, academics, and community. The Alumni Association wishes Coach Olivieri and her team the best as they defend their title. We also thank Chancellor Walcott for providing our girls with a practice that they will never forget and wish him continued success as Chancellor of the largest public school system in America.

PLEASE SAY IT ISN'T SO! The price of producing the Alumni Newsletter and mailing it out has risen over the past few years. While we really want you to be a part of the Alumni Association, we also need your help to pay expenses by supporting us with your dues each year. If there are any PR alumni who do not wish to maintain a connection with our alma mater, please let us know and we will reluctantly remove your name from our mailing list. This can be accomplished by either writing to us at the school or sending an e-mail to Ed. Mattei, Newsletter editor, at ejmattei@si.rr.com.

If you did not receive the January and June newsletters this past school year, it is most likely because we did not receive your dues by the January 15th deadline. Remember, only those who have paid their dues by January 15, 2012 will receive all three editions this year. Please consider sending your dues now by using the form at the top of page 7. We thank you in advance for helping us to give back to the school that gave so much to each of us.

Your Alumni Association welcomes news from our members. If you would like to share your news with our alumni family, please send your information and pictures to Ed. Mattei at ejmattei@si.rr.com or mail it directly to the Alumni Association, 80 St. Joseph Avenue, Staten Island, NY 10302

If you have moved, be sure to include your new address on membership form

FOR YOUR RECORDS

Amt. \$ _____
Ck. # _____
Date _____

Port Richmond High School Alumni Association Membership Form — 2011-2012

Table with membership options: General Membership (\$10.00 per year), Co-Sponsor (\$25.00 per year), Sponsor (\$50.00 per year), Patron (\$100.00 per year), Business Sponsor (\$250.00 per year), Benefactor (\$500.00 one lifetime payment)

(Dues Are From September 2011 - August 2012)

PLEASE PRINT

NAME _____

MAIDEN NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

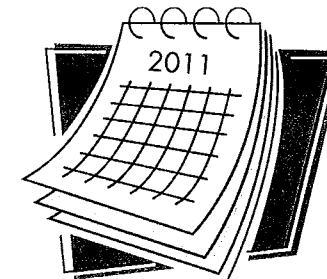
YEAR OF GRADUATION _____

Renewal [] New Member []

Please enroll me as a: General [] Co-Sponsor [] Sponsor [] Patron [] Business Sponsor [] Benefactor []

Please make check/money order payable to: Port Richmond High School Alumni Association and mail to: BILL DRINNAN, TREASURER, 40 SYCAMORE STREET, STATEN ISLAND, NY 10308-2653

MARK YOUR CALENDARS



PRHS All Class Reunion

The Alumni Association is delighted to announce that an ALL-CLASS REUNION will be held on Saturday, APRIL 21, 2012, at The Staaten Restaurant from 1 to 5 pm. The price will be \$65.00 per person and will include a buffet dinner, entertainment, and cash bar. Mark your calendar and keep this date open so that you can reminisce about your experiences at PRHS with others from different classes. For further information you may contact Carmen Cagnetta '64 at CarmenJay@msn.com or ((718) 720- 7838; Francine Delarato Kitts'63 at fkitts@aol.com or (718) 981-5097; or Jeannine Spatafora Borkowski '63 at skilady1@yahoo.com or (718) 981-8074. The deadline for reservations is APRIL 7th, 2012.

PRHS ALL-CLASS REUNION REGISTRATION FORM

Name: _____ Class: _____

E-mail/telephone number _____

Number of people attending _____ at \$65.00 per person; Total amount enclosed \$ _____

Checks should be made payable to: Carmen J. Cagnetta and mailed to:

Carmen J. Cagnetta
70 Springhill Avenue
Staten Island, NY 10301

(Please note that the deadline for reservations is April 7, 2012)

Port Richmond High School

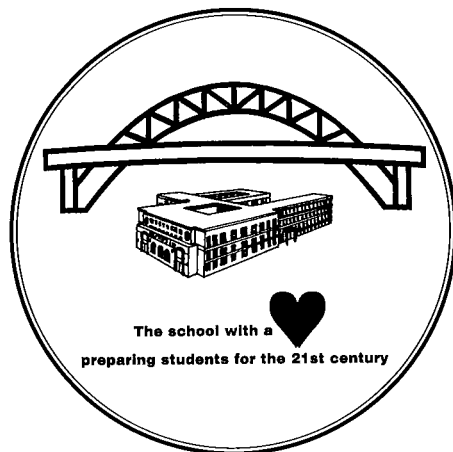
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www.portrichmondalumni.com

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PORT RICHMOND HIGH SCHOOL ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

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- JEANNINE SPATAFORA BORKOWSKI '63.. 1st Vice President
- JUDI ROGOFF SASNAUSKAS '66..... 2nd Vice President
- FRANCINE DELARATO KITTS '63 Recording Secretary
- EDMUND J. MATTEI '58 Newsletter Editor
- WILLIAM G. DRINNAN '47 Treasurer
- EVELYN OTTEN MACDONALD '46..... Archivist

Carmen Cogna '64 • Joseph Crescenzi '83
 Barbara O'Donnell Hoey '53 • Robert Matthews '48
 Beverly Wurth Neuhaus '62 • Christine Twaite Thorsen '64

PAST PRESIDENTS

- GREGORY HALL '65.....1986-1988
- CARMEN J. COGNETTA JR. '641988-1990
- WILLIAM MCANDREWS '651990-1992
- CARMINE COLCA '53.....1992-1994
- ROBERT MATHEWS '481994-2001
- BEVERLY WURTH NEUHAUS '62.....2001-2005

Written correspondence may be mailed to:
 Ed Mattei PRHS Alumni News
 Port Richmond High School
 85 St. Joseph's Avenue Staten Island NY 10302

MEETING DATES

BEGIN AT 7:30 P.M.

OCTOBER 12

DECEMBER 14

NOVEMBER 9

JANUARY 11

ALL ALUMNI ARE WELCOME

Enter St. Joseph's Avenue (New Addition)